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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Takehiko SHIGEFUJI et al.

Group Art Unit: 3724

Appl. No : 09/680,293

Examiner: C. Goodman

Filed : October 6, 2000

For : PUNCHING TOOL PROVIDED WITH TOOL IDENTIFICATION  
MEDIUM AND PUNCH PRESS PROVIDED WITH A TOOL  
IDENTIFICATION MEDIUM READER

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Commissioner for Patents  
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Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated October 4, 2005, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on January 4, 2006, and

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further to the Request for Continued Examination filed concurrently herewith, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending in the present application, in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this document.

**Remarks** begin on page14 of this paper.